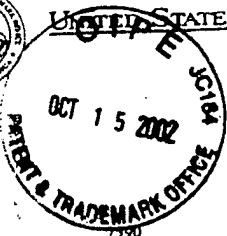




UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov



COPY

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

Mark A Litman & Associates PA
3209 West 76th Street
York Business Center Suite 205
Edina, MN 55435

07/09/2002

EXAMINER	
VARMA, SNEH K	
ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
3711	273-14900R

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2002

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/690,051	10/16/2000	Attila Grauzer	PA0476.AP.US	1520

TITLE OF INVENTION: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR CONTINUOUSLY SHUFFLING AND MONITORING CARDS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$640	\$0	\$640	10/09/2002

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

B. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

☐ Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

received
7/16/02 AM



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/690,051	10/16/2000	Attila Grauzer	PA0476.AP.US	1520
EXAMINER				
VARMA, SNEH K				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
7590		3711		
DATE MAILED: 07/09/2002				

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7590 07/09/2002

O I P E
OCT 15 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The patent term adjustment to date is 0 days. If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the term adjustment will be 0 days.

If a continued prosecution application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines patent term adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. (<http://pair.uspto.gov>)



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/690,051	10/16/2000	Attila Grauer	PA0476.AP.US	1520
EXAMINER				
VARMA, SNEH K				
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7590 07/09/2002

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UNITED STATES

OIPE
OCT 15 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Notice of Fee Increase on October 1, 2002

If a reply to a "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" is filed in the Office on or after October 1, 2002, then the amount due may be higher than that set forth in the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" since there will be an increase in fees effective on October 1, 2002. See Revision of Patent and Trademark Fees for Fiscal Year 2003: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 67 Fed. Reg. 30634, 30636 (May 7, 2002). Although a change to the amount of the publication fee is not currently proposed for October 2002, if the issue fee or publication fee is to be paid on or after October 1, 2002, applicant should check the USPTO web site for the current fees before submitting the payment. The USPTO Internet address for the fee schedule is: <http://www.uspto.gov/main/howtofees.htm>.

If the issue fee paid is the amount shown on the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due," but not the correct amount in view of the fee increase, a "Notice to Pay Balance of Issue Fee" will be mailed to applicant. In order to avoid processing delays associated with mailing of a "Notice to Pay Balance of Issue Fee," if the response to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) due form is to be filed on or after October 1, 2002 (or mailed with a certificate of mailing on or after October 1, 2002), the issue fee paid should be the fee that is required at the time the fee is paid. If the issue fee was previously paid, and the response to the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" includes a request to apply a previously-paid issue fee to the issue fee now due, then the difference between the issue fee amount at the time the response is filed and the previously paid issue fee should be paid. See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Section 1308.01 (Eighth Edition, August 2001).

Effective October 1, 2002, 37 CFR 1.18 is proposed to be revised to change the patent issue fees as set forth below. As stated above, the final fees may be a different amount, and applicant should check the web site given above when paying the fee.

(a) Issue fee for issuing each original or reissue patent, except a design or plant patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))--\$655.00

By other than a small entity--\$1,310.00

(b) Issue fee for issuing a design patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))--\$235.00

By other than a small entity--\$470.00

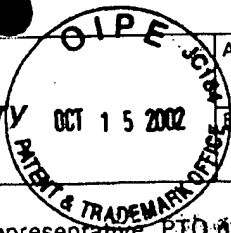
(c) Issue fee for issuing a plant patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))--\$315.00

By other than a small entity-- \$630.00

Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

Interview Summary



Application No.
09/690,051

Applicant(s)

Grauer et al.

Examiner

Sneh Varma

Art Unit

3711

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Sneh Varma

(3) _____

(2) Mark A. Littman

(4) _____

Date of Interview June 21, 26, 27, and July 3, 2002

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy is given to 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No. If yes, brief description:

Claim(s) discussed: _____

Identification of prior art discussed: _____

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

On June 21, the Examiner requested a change in the amended claims to clarify it further. Mr. Littman wanted to discuss the changes with the Applicant. On June 26, the Examiner requested a Formal signed copy of the Supplemental amendments submitted informally. On June 27, the Examiner was authorized to enter a description for Figure 20.

On July 3, Mr. Littman agreed that the Examiner would cancel claims 2-24, and 26-40 submitted in the Supplemental Amendment, Paper No. 9, filed on June 27, 2002. Claims 1, 25, and 41-55 would be allowed. The Examiner's restriction requirements in Paper No. 5 are withdrawn.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) ☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview (if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mark A. Littman on July 3, 2002.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 2-18 and 26-40 submitted in the Supplemental Amendment, Paper No. 9, filed on June 27, 2002 and which have been renumbered as Claims 56-87, have been canceled. Claims 19-24 have also been canceled.

3. The application has been further amended as follows: Authorization for the following Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark A. Littman on June 27, 2002.

In the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS insert --Figure 20 is a schematic diagram of the sensor and motor locations for a preferred embodiment of the invention.--, as a new paragraph after line 14 on page 11 of the original Specification.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's arguments filed on April 11, 2002 have been fully considered and the amendments to the claims filed on June 27, 2002 are persuasive that they present features not shown or suggested by the prior art.

The Examiner has withdrawn the Restriction Requirements stated in the Office Action, Paper No. 5, mailed on November 9, 2001.

Claims 1, 25, and 41-55 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Varma whose telephone number is (703) 308-8335. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Paul Sewell, can be reached on (703) 308-2126.

Application/Control Number: 09/690,051

Art Unit: 3711


COPY

The Official fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9302 and the fax phone number After Final Office Action is (703) 872-9303. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

July 3, 2002

Sneh Varma, Patent Examiner

Art Unit 3711


Patent Examiner
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3711

Notice of Allowability



Application No.
09/690,051

Applicant(s)

Grauzer et al.

Examiner

Sneh Varma

Art Unit

3711

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to April 11, 2002 and April 27, 2002

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 25, and 41-55

3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

(a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

6. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.

(a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____

(b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

(c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1 ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

3 ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). _____

7 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

9 ☐ Other

2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

4 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____

6 ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8 ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance